

P23913.A03



Application No. 10/668,145

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Karl STEINER et al.

Group Art Unit : 1731

Appln. No : 10/668,145

Examiner : Unknown

Filed : September 24, 2003

For : WATER DRAINING DEVICE

PETITION TO WITHDRAW NOTICE OF OMITTED ITEMS

Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

This petition is in response to the Notice of Omitted Items mailed April 1, 2004 (copy enclosed). The Notice indicates that pages 20 and 21 of the specification (Description and claims) appear to be omitted from the application.

The above-identified application, as filed on September 24, 2003, included twenty-two pages of specification including the description, claims and abstract. Submitted herewith are copies of the two pages, i.e., pages 20 and 21. Moreover, to ensure that the file is complete at the Patent and Trademark Office, submitted herewith is another signed copy of the divisional patent application as filed on September 24, 2003 including 22 pages of description, claims and abstract (including pages 20 and 21), 4 sheets of drawings including 10 Figures, the Utility Patent Application Transmittal, a Cover Letter, a Claim of Priority, an

executed Declaration, a date-stamped mailroom receipt evidencing filing of the twenty-two pages of the application, a date-stamped postcard receipt evidencing filing of all of the above and the twenty-pages of application on September 24, 2003.

Applicant respectfully submits that above-noted pages 20 and 21 of application were, in fact, filed with the Patent and Trademark Office on September 24, 2003. The filing of pages 20 and 21 on September 24, 2003 is evidenced by the date-stamped mailroom receipt, the Utility Patent Application Transmittal, and the date-stamped postcard receipt confirming the filing on September 24, 2003.


Accordingly, Applicant hereby requests that pages 20 and 21, submitted concurrently herewith, be accorded the same effective filing date as the application as filed on September 24, 2003.

A check including the \$130.00 Petition Fee is attached. Please charge any additional fee deemed necessary for processing the present petition to Deposit Account No. 19-0089. Also, upon granting of the petition, please issue a refund check payable to the law firm of the undersigned.

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Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Karl STEINER et al.


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April 7, 2004
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7. The press arrangement according to claim 6 wherein said at least one suction channel includes a mouth which is positioned above a maximum water level of said collecting tank, and said collecting tank includes said connection to connect said at least one suction channel to said source of reduced pressure, said connection being positioned above the maximum water level.

8. The press arrangement according to claim 1 wherein said at least one suction channel comprises an upper channel wall and a lower channel wall extending along the at least one press nip to run transverse to the pulp web, said upper channel wall and said lower channel wall extending at an acute angle to said at least one dewatering belt at least in an initial zone of the suction channel.

9. The press arrangement according to claim 8 wherein said lower channel wall includes an edge, and said edge is positioned close to said at least one dewatering belt.

10. The press arrangement according to claim 9 wherein said edge of said lower channel wall is positioned less than 20 mm from said at least one dewatering belt.

11. The press arrangement according to claim 8 wherein said lower channel wall includes an edge, and said edge touches or is immersed in said at least one dewatering belt.

12. The press arrangement according to claim 11 wherein the edge of the lower channel wall comprises a wear-resistant strip.

13. The press arrangement according to claim 12 wherein said strip forms an angle of between 10 and 45° with said at least one dewatering belt.

14. The press arrangement according to claim 8 wherein said upper channel wall is part of a water capture device for water thrown off from said upper press roll above said at least one suction channel.

15. The press arrangement according to claim 14 wherein the upper channel wall includes a surface of said at least one suction channel outside said at least one suction channel, said surface extending at an incline to said at least one press nip, the upper channel wall including an edge projecting into the wedge-shaped area at least slightly less than an edge of the lower channel wall.

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16. The press arrangement according to claim 8 wherein said upper channel wall includes an edge projecting into the wedge-shaped area exactly as far as or further than the lower channel wall.

17. The press arrangement according to claim 6 wherein said collecting tank is divided into a plurality of chambers extending along the at least one press nip and transverse to the pulp web, each of said plurality of chambers including a connection for the source of reduced pressure.